

--Expedited Handling--

--Amendment and Response under 37 CFR 1.116--
PATENT**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 18, 2004.

Diana M. Celia
Diana M. Celia

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jeffrey W. Blanton

Paper No.:

Serial No.: 10/613,280

Group Art Unit: 3611

Filed: July 3, 2003

Examiner: Daniel G. DePumpo

For: Automatic Hitch Assembly

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment and Response Under 37 CFR § 1.116 in the above-identified application.

[] additional fee is required.

[x] also attached: return postcard.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	NO. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST PREVIOUS PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	FEE
Total Claims	15	20	0	x \$18 =	\$0
Independent Claims	3	3	0	x \$84 =	\$0
TOTAL FEE DUE					\$0

[] A check in the amount of \$0 is enclosed.

[] Please charge my Deposit Account No. 04-1133 in the amount of \$.

[] Please charge the amount of \$____ to our Visa credit card. Form PTO-2038 is enclosed.

[x] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 04-1133, including any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for presentation of extra claims and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua A. Lorentz (Reg. No. 52,406)

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Docket No. 22562-14

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated December 7, 2005, please amend the present application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.